

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT VALE DISTRICT 100 Oregon Street Vale, Oregon 97918 http://www.or.blm.gov/Vale/

IN REPLY REFER TO: 4100 01101

October 23, 2003

Dear Interested Public:

Vale District, Bureau of Land Management has completed the Environmental Assessment (OR-030-04-001) and Finding of No Significant Impacts on the Jackies Butte Temporary Nonrenewable grazing application in the Jackies Butte Allotment (#01101). The planned action is in accordance with existing Land Use Plans.

The proposed action is to issue temporary nonrenewable grazing authorizations in the Jackies Butte Summer Allotment (#01101). The TNR application is for a one time shift of grazing use outside of the normal permitted grazing dates, within the Rome South Pasture of the Jackies Butte Summer Allotment (#01101). The Rome South Pasture has received no use during the 2003 grazing season. The TNR would be authorized for 953 dry cows to graze 2,194 AUM's from November 7, 2003 to January 15, 2004. The TNR being applied for is not use above and beyond the allocated AUM's for the allotment. If TNR is authorized, total AUM's taken from the allotment will be approximately 486 AUM's less than what is allocated for the total active AUM's in the allotment. The proposed use, though outside the normal permitted end date, would be within the same season of use and would have no greater impact. This pasture is comprised mainly of crested wheatgrass seedings with some native range occurring on the outskirts of the pasture. Approving this request would allow the operators to better manage crested wheatgrass seedings within the Rome South Pasture of the Jackies Butte Summer Allotment while taking advantage of available forage. In the event that fall precipitation triggers the onset of crested wheatgrass growth (green-up), grazing use would be terminated.

An Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact has been prepared and is available for public review at the BLM Vale District Office, 100 Oregon Street, Vale, Oregon. This document may be viewed at the Vale District website at: http://www.or.blm.gov/Vale/Planning/Planning-EnvirnAnalyses.htm

To be considered in final decision making, comments must be received within 15 days of publication of this notice at the above listed location. Comments, including names and addresses of respondents will be available for public review at the above address. Comments are to be addressed to the Field Office Manager, Jordan Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, 100 Oregon Street, Vale, Oregon.

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If you have any questions or comments please contact the Jordan Field Manager at the above address or (541)473-3144.

Sincerely,

s/Jerry L. Taylor

Jerry L. Taylor Jordan Field Manager